

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

File: Letelier Case

Memorandum

TO : Frederick Baron
Special Assistant to
the Attorney General

FROM : Eugene M. Propper *EmP*
Assistant United States Attorney

SUBJECT: Letelier Case-NSA-Addendum

DATE: October 12, 1977

I have been advised that the FBI attempted to obtain information from NSA on the Letelier case when the murder first took place. The FBI was informed that the Letelier case was a criminal matter and, as such, that no information would be provided. It did not push the matter. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Robert Keuch's request was also made at the beginning of the case. Both requests were made prior to the time we had specific information upon which to bottom the request. The requests were made on the chance that we might come up with something.

At this point in the investigation, the FBI and I have a more than sufficient factual predicate upon which to base the request. Our information, although developed in the course of a criminal investigation, clearly falls into an area involving national security. As you indicated, we now have the limited precedent set in the KCIA case. In Letelier, the facts are stronger for NSA disclosure since there is a security interest to the United States involving protection of persons within and without the borders of the United States. And, as is made clear by the October 9, 1976 letter of then Attorney General Levi, that security interest in the Letelier case has been recognized by the Attorney General and subsequently by the Director of Central Intelligence.

Please inform me of our progress as soon as possible. It would be very unfortunate if one agency of our Government possessed information which may be relevant to this murder and would not disclose it to us.



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